

Overview

The purpose of this lesson is to teach students about the four main crops grown in Kansas and the foods they produce. The lesson also focuses the student's attention on reading expository texts and sequencing. The lesson is divided into several short lessons over four days but can be completed in fewer days if the teacher so desires.

Standards

History:

Benchmark 2, Indicator 2 The student describes the different foods produced in Kansas over time (e.g., wheat, corn, soybeans, sunflowers).

Benchmark 4, Indicator 1 The student puts events in chronological order.

Reading:

Benchmark 4, Indicator 7 The student sequences events according to basic story structure of beginning, middle, and end.

Objectives

Content:

- The student will name four crops grown in Kansas.
- The student will identify four foods produced from Kansas crops.

Skills:

- The student will sequence how four foods are produced.

Essential Questions

- What is the job of a farmer?
- What do farmers in Kansas grow?
- What foods are made from Kansas crops?



Activities

This activity uses the following *Read Kansas* cards:

- What was I before I was bread? I was wheat.
- What was I before I was popcorn? I was corn.
- What was I before I was a sunflower seed? I was a sunflower.
- What was I before I was soy sauce? I was soybeans.

Day 1

1. Lead a discussion with the class on what is the job of a Kansas farmer. Find out if any of your students, or someone they know, lives on a farm.
 - What does that farmer grow?
 - What does the farmer do with the crops?
2. Provide each student with a copy of **What was I before I was bread?** Read the card together as a class. Select students to read the card out loud a second time.
3. As a class discuss the sequence of how seeds become wheat, and wheat becomes bread.
4. Using the **From Seed to Food** worksheet have the students cut out the pictures in line "A."
5. Using the causal chain graphic organizer, **From Seed to Food**, have the students glue the pictures into proper sequence on row "A."

Day 2

1. Repeat Day 1 activities with **What was I before I was popcorn?** and line "B" on the worksheets.

Day 3

1. Repeat Day 1 activities with **What was I before I was sunflower seeds?** and line "C" on the worksheets.

Day 4

1. Repeat Day 1 activities with **What was I before I was soy sauce?** and line "D" on the worksheets.

Assessment

- Observe the students' ability to read the expository text.
- Evaluate the students' ability to successfully complete the **From Seed to Food** graphic organizer

For the Teacher

The state's history and identity is closely tied to its agricultural roots. Farming has been central to the Kansas economy, politics, laws, innovations, culture, social customs, and traditions. Today, Kansas is a leader in producing five grains and oil seeds: wheat, sunflowers, corn, soybeans, and grain sorghum. As the road signs say, one Kansas farmer feeds 129 people and you!

Wheat Facts

- All the wheat grown in Kansas in a single year would fit in a train stretching from the western Kansas border to the Atlantic Ocean.
- Half of the wheat grown in Kansas is used in the United States; the other half is exported.
- Kansas is number one in flour milling in the United States.
- One bushel (60 pounds) of wheat can make 70 one-pound loaves of bread.
- Wheat is native to the Middle East.

Corn Facts

- Another name for corn is maize.
- Native Americans gave corn to the Pilgrims, which helped them survive their first winter in America.
- The United States grows about half of the world's corn.
- One bushel of corn will sweeten more than 400 cans of pop.
- Corn is native to Central America.

Sunflower Facts

- The sunflower is the state flower of Kansas.
- The highest place in the state is named Mount Sunflower. It is on the western edge of Kansas.
- The top three sunflower-producing states are North Dakota, South Dakota, and Kansas.
- Sunflowers are native to the North American Great Plains.

Soybean Facts

- The first soybeans were brought to the United States in 1804.
- Scientist George Washington Carver, who lived in Kansas as a young man, studied soybeans.
- Prang Fun Pro crayons are made from soybeans. They are 85 percent soybean oil.
- Soybeans are native to China.

The materials in this packet may be reproduced for classroom use only. Reproduction of these materials for any other use is prohibited without the written permission of the Kansas State Historical Society.

Resources for this lesson are from:

- Kansas State Historical Society collections
- Peter Clark (Wheat card front)
- Luis Carlos Torres (Wheat card reverse lower)
- Jonathan Hudson (Corn card front)
- John Auger (Corn card reverse upper)
- Lisa Thornberg (Corn card reverse lower)
- Samuel Clarke (Sunflower card front)
- Willi Schmitz (Sunflower card reverse upper)
- Kevin Russ (Sunflower card reverse lower)
- Weldon Schloneger (Soybeans card front)
- Michael Westhoff (Soybeans card reverse upper)

Pictures for Worksheet

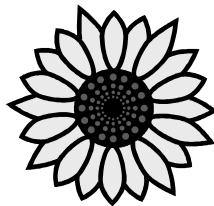
A. Wheat



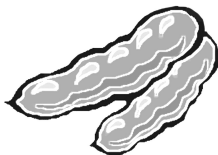
B. Corn



C. Sunflower



D. Soybean

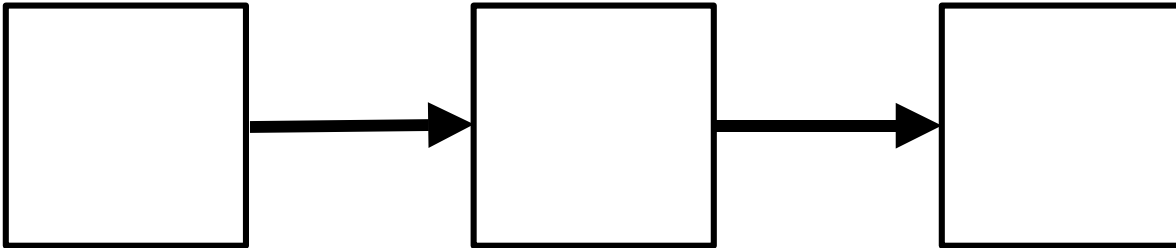


Name: _____

From Seed to Food

Worksheet

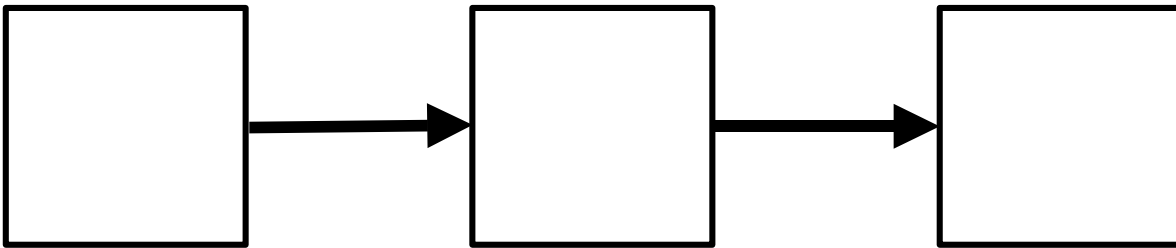
A. Wheat



Word Bank:

Bread
Wheat
Seed

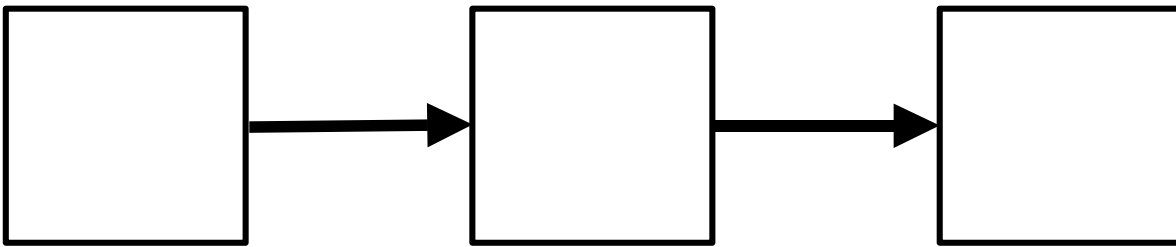
B. Corn



Word Bank:

Corn
Popcorn
Seed

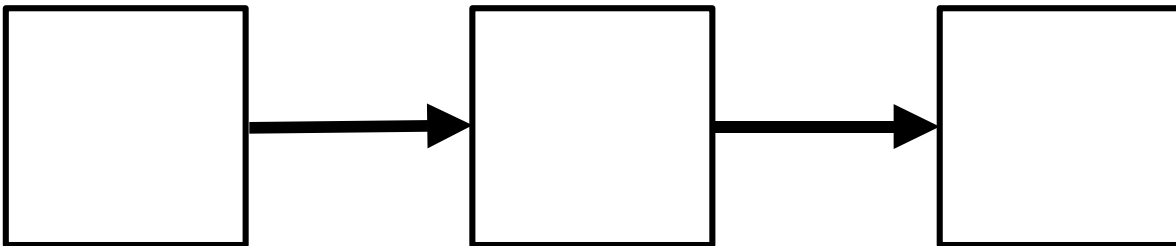
C. Sunflower



Word Bank:

Kernel
Seed
Sunflower

D. Soybean



Word Bank:

Seed
Soybean
Soy sauce